(e) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (c) and (d) above.

Increase in the write taff limit of bad debts by banks

115. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAM. BHAJIRAQ SHINDE; SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA.
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a, fact that Commercial Banks have been allowed to write on: individual bad debts to the tune of Rs. 25 lacs in place of Rs 25,000/- only, as at present;

(b) if so the reasons for the ten limes increase in this limit; and,

(c) the steps contemplated to Prevent misuse *at* the enchanced limit facility to the detriment of the public interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR; MURTHY); (a) Reserve Bank of In dia. has reported that no such in-struction have been issued to com-mercial banks.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in vlew of the reply to (a) above.

Representation received from leather Chemicals Manufacturers" Association

116. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAM-BHAJ1RAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU;

Will the Minister of FINANCE; be I pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a representation has been received from Leather Chemicals Manufactu rers? Association about the adverse impact of Tebration in Import duties on finished products and increase in excise duties on indigenous products;

(b) if so, what was their precise plea and what is the difference in average prices of indigenous pro ducts and corresponding imported items, inclusive of all duties: arid costs involved in imports; and

(c) what is the Government's res ponse thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

} (b) The Association has requested for the following changes;

(i) imposition of Countervailing duty on leather chemicals specified in Notification No. 45/94.Custom3 dated the 1st March, 1994.

(iij To allow import of raw materials and intermediates for manufacture of leather chemicals at concessional rates of import duty; and

(iii) Restriction on impor$_t$ of leather chemicals and their raw materials to actual userg through appropriate control mechanism.

As per information readily available, the reported prices in respect of some of the leather chemicals are given in the enclosed Statement. *(See below)*

(c) That matter is tinder exami nation. . i.

Statement

	Name of Leather Chemical	Local price of Indigenous Chemical in Rs/Kg	Equivalent Imported Chemical	Landed cost of imported chemical in Rs/Kg
1	Pigments PPE Deep Black	78	Black	90.5
2	Wax Emulsion	27.45	FI- 50	90.8
3	Resin Binders	69.2	RA--I	97
4	Lacquers	96.5	Unithane 59D	103.4
5	Non PCP Preservative	100	Busan 30 L	497
6	Synthetic Fat Liquor	65	Ossipol LN	83.8
7	Syathetic Fat Liquor	52.1	Lipsol E	61
8	Synthetic Fat Liquor	68	Neopristol SW	81.3
9	Resins Syntans	54.85	Locutan 50	168
10	Dyes-non Benzidine	398	D--Black	561.32
11	Syntan	51.56	Tanigan 5	40.96
12	Casein Binder	87 36	Deabind 1430	58.37
13	Acrylic Binder	63	Acrilem	38.4
14	Dye	584 31	Derma Dark Brown 2R	415.84
15	Lacquer	133 6	Icalac	102
16	Fat liquor	64.87	Dermol	91.6

Note: Prices are of representative varieties and willvary from manufacturer to manufacturer.

Conversion of fast disbursing programmes of loans into special project loans

117. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether all fast-disbursing pro grammes of loans from the World Bank are expected to be converted into special project loans;

(b) if so whether this move is a part of new strategy worked out by the Finance Ministry in view of the adequate forex reserves;

(c) whether the strategy will rely on further cleaning up the portfolio of loans from the World Bank so that the total external debt comes down and only meaningful and viable projects

(d) if so whether any concrete decition in this regard has . been worked out;

(e) if so, to what extent his has heiped tire Indian Government; and

(f) whether the World Bank has also released 3 programme loans during 1994-95, if so, the details there, of?

THE MINISTER, OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANO